

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/867,594
Attorney Docket No. 13220.023001; P5836

REMARKS

Please reconsider the application in view of the following remarks. Applicant thanks the Examiner for carefully considering this application.

Disposition of Claims

Claims 1-15 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 5, 9, and 13 are independent. The remaining claims depend, directly or indirectly, from claims 1, 5, 9 and 13.

Information Disclosure Statement

The Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner indicate that he has reviewed the references cited in the Information Disclosure Statement filed on August 27, 2001 by returning an initialed copy of the corresponding PTO-1449 Form.

Objection to Drawings

The drawings were objected to under 37 CFR §1.84 or §1.152. The Applicant respectfully notes formal drawings were filed on January 27, 2004, which are believed to have overcome this objection. Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to indicate whether the filed formal drawings are acceptable.

Objection to Claims

Claims 14-16 are objected to in view of the informalities listed on page 2 of the Final Office Action mailed March 24, 2004. At the outset the Applicant respectfully

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notes that claim 16 has been cancelled by the response received February 3, 2004. Accordingly, the rejection is moot with respect to the cancelled claim. Further, claims 14 and 15 have been amended in accordance with the Examiner's suggestion to correct the informalities. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Double Patenting

In response the office action mailed October 27, 2003, the Applicant submitted, pursuant to the Examiner's suggestion, a terminal disclaimer to overcome the double patenting rejection with respect to claims 1, 7, 9, 13 and 14. Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to indicate whether the filed terminal disclaimer is acceptable to overcome the double patenting rejection with respect to claims 1, 7, 9, 13 and 14.

Rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C § 102

Claims 1-16 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as anticipated by iPlanet Directory Server Administrator's Guide (Document ID 816-0799-01) ("iPlanet"). At the outset the Applicant respectfully notes that claim 16 has been cancelled by the response received February 3, 2004. Accordingly, the rejection is moot with respect to the cancelled claim.

With respect to the remaining claims, iPlanet is not valid prior art to this application. As evidenced by the attached declaration under 37 C.F.R. § 1.131, the present invention was conceived prior to the effective 102(a) date of iPlanet, and subsequently constructively reduced to practice with due diligence exercised by the inventors. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

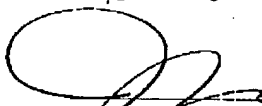
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Conclusion

Applicant believes this reply is fully responsive to all outstanding issues and places this application in condition for allowance. If this belief is incorrect, or other issues arise, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned or his associates at the telephone number listed below. Please apply any charges not covered, or any credits, to Deposit Account 50-0591 (Reference Number 13220.023001).

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 7/22/04


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